

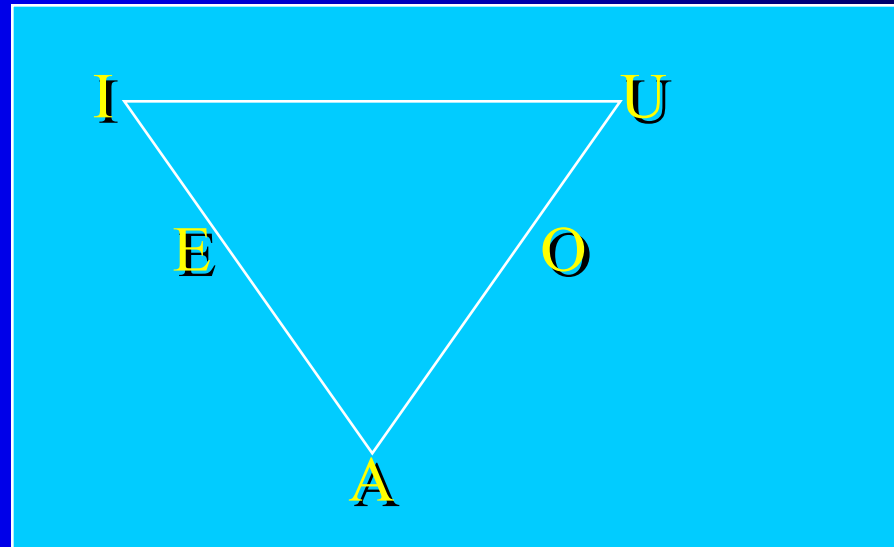


humano

Sounds of Spanish

Vowels a, e, i, o, u

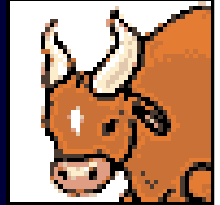
A, like far
E, like pet
I, and Y like
see
O, like for
U, like boot



This triangle represents the mouth it shows the position of the tongue when saying a vowel. For the A the tongue is depressed, at the bottom of the mouth.



elefante

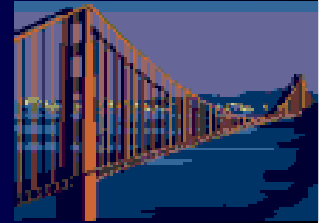


toro



tigre

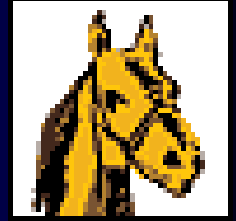
Spanish Sounds



puente

- Spanish Semi Vowels I, U
- Form part of the two vowel combination called a diphthong. Pronounced shorter than the regular vowels I, U.
- Examples... bien (ie) patio (io), aire (ai) puente (ue) causa (au) muy (ui)

Spanish Sounds



caballo



vaca

- Consonants, pronounced with less stress (softer) than the English consonants. Especially B, D, G,
- B and V pronounced like the b in English, labio, vaca, vamos a ver.
- C+a, o, u, l, or r or qu are pronounced like the letter K in English. Without the puff of air. Casa, cosa, cuando, clase, caballo, que, Quijote
- The spelling “K” is only used in words that are not native to Spanish. Kilómetro, kimono

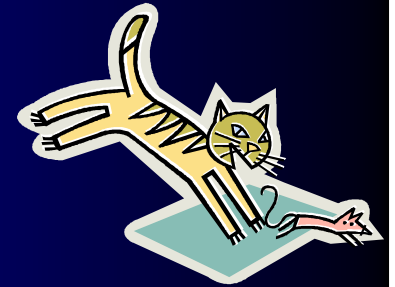
Spanish Sounds

- “Ch” Just like in English... Church
- Muchacho, chico, mucho
- “D” pronounced with the tip of the tongue against the upper teeth at the beginning of breath groups or after a “n”. In other places it is like the “th” sound in “father”
- Dámelo, dedo



muchacho

Spanish Sounds



gato

- “F” Just like the f in English
- Never written as “ph” or “ff”
- The letter G + a, o, u, r, or l, and the combination gu+e or l, are pronounced like the hard G in “get” at the beginning of a word or breath group.
- In other places it is pronounced like the English “h” in Help “genérico”
- Gato, lago, gloria, agua, guerra, guitarra
- The “u” of “gu” is silent unless written with a diresis. Vergüenza.

Spanish Sounds

- The letter “h” is never pronounced in Spanish.
- Hablar, prohibir, alcohol.
- The letter “j” + a, e, i, o, or u and “g” + e or I are pronounced like the letter “h” in “hat”
- Jamon, jerez, viaje, Juan, gente, gitano
- The “x” of México and Texas is pronounced the same was as the J or G

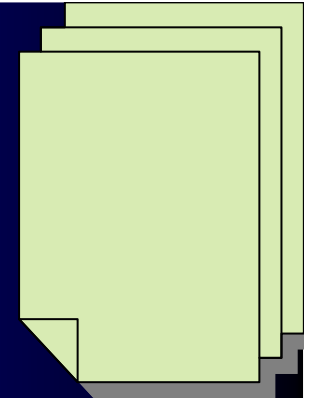
Spanish Sounds



hotel

- “l” The l is pronounced like the l in “let” the sound is very fast with the tip of the tongue just touching the roof of the mouth.
- Los, hotel, mil, tal, alto
- “ll” The double l and the y are pronounced the same as the “y” in English. In Argentina the sound has more friction. ...Mayo...bello, calle
- Argentina...sounds like pleasure lesion.

Spanish Sounds



papel

- “M” like the letter m in English, madre, gramática, inmediato
- “N” just like English... nada, mono, antes
- “Ñ” just like the letters “ny” in “Canyon” and “ni” in “Onion”... Mañana, España
- “P” just like English without the puff of air...papa, Pedro, Papel, Padre

Spanish Sounds

- “R” pronounced like the “d” or “t” in English...in words like “ladder” and “matter”... Pero, árbol, comer
- “RR” the tip of the tongue moves against the front roof of the mouth very quickly it is called a “trill”. Perro, arroz...rosa, rojo, honra, alrededor, Israel..
- “t” just like English...no puff of air tú, total, terror,
- S in front of vowel or end of syllable, soy caras estoy.. “z” in front of a, o, u, zapato, feliz, vez and c in front of e and i cerrar, cierra



rosas